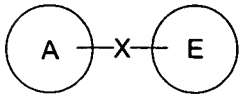
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An antifungal agent comprising a compound represented by the formula (I), or a salt or a hydrate thereof:



(I)

[wherein A represents a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom;

X represents a group represented by the formula -NH-C(=Y)-$(CH_2)_n$-, a group represented by the formula -C(=Y)-NH-$(CH_2)_n$-, a group represented by the formula -C(=Z)-$(CH_2)_n$-, a group represented by the formula -CH_2-NH-$(CH_2)_n$-, a group represented by the formula -NH-CH_2-$(CH_2)_n$- or a group represented by the formula -Z-CH_2-$(CH_2)_n$-;

Y represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or NR^Y (wherein R^Y represents a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a cyano group);

Z represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

n represents an integer from 0 to 3;

E represents a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, a pyridyl group, a tetrazolyl group, a thiazolyl group, a pyrazolyl group or a phenyl group;

with the proviso that A may contain 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent groups a-1 and a-2, and that E has one or two substituents selected from the following substituent groups a-1 and a-2;

<Substituent group a-1>

Substituent group a-1 represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkylidene C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{2-6} alkenylthio group, a C_{2-6} alkynylthio group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkylthio group, a C_{6-10} arylthio group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkenylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkynylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{2-6} alkenyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{2-6} alkynyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a group represented by the formula -$C(=N-R^{a1})R^{a2}$ (wherein R^{a1} represents a hydroxyl group or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; R^{a2}

represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group), a C_{6-10} aryloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group and a 5- to 10-membered heterocycle oxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

<Substituent group a-2>

Substituent Group a-2 represents the group consisting of: a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{2-6} alkenylthio group, a C_{2-6} alkynylthio group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkylthio group, a C_{6-10} arylthio group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkenylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkynylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{2-6} alkenyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{2-6} alkynyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy-C_{1-6} alkyl group and a 5- to 10-membered heterocycle oxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

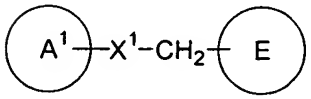
with the proviso that each group described in the substituent group a-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group b;

<Substituent group b>

Substituent group b represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a nitro group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocycle oxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a trifluoromethyl group, a trifluoromethoxy group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group which may have one amino group or aminosulfonyl group and a N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group which may have one amino group].

2. (Original) The antifungal agent according to Claim 1, wherein X represents a group represented by the formula -NH-C(=Y)-CH_2-, a group represented by the formula -C(=Y)-NH-CH_2-, a group represented by the formula -CH_2-NH- or a group represented by the formula -NH-CH_2- (wherein Y has the same meaning as defined above).

3. (Original) A compound represented by the formula (I-a), or a salt or a hydrate thereof:



(I-a)

[wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, a pyrazinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group, a pyrazolyl group, a quinolyl group, an isoquinolyl group, a naphthyldinyl group, a quinoxalinyl group, a cinnolinyl group, a quinazolinyl group, an imidazopyridyl group, a benzothiazolyl group, a benzoxazolyl group, a benzimidazolyl group, an indolyl group, a pyrrolopyridyl group, a thienopyridyl group, a furopyridyl group, a 2,3-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]-pyridin-5-yl group or a benzothiadiazolyl group;

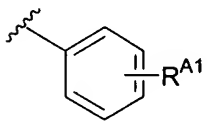
X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -NH-C(=Y^1)- or a group represented by the formula -C(=Y^1)-NH-;

Y^1 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or NR^{Y1} (wherein R^{Y1} represents a C_{1-6} alkoxy group or a cyano group);

E represents a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, a pyridyl group, a tetrazolyl group, a thiazolyl group, a pyrazolyl group or a phenyl group;

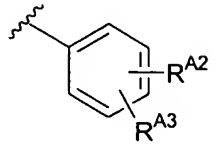
with the proviso that A^1 may contain 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent groups a-1 and a-2 as defined above, and that E has 1 or 2 substituents selected from the substituent groups a-1 and a-2 defined above]

[with the proviso that (1) a compound in which E represents a group represented by the formula:



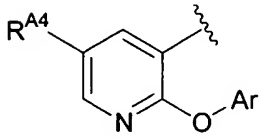
(wherein R^{A1} represents a phenyl group having a halogen atom, a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group or a carboxyl group),

(2) a compound in which E represents a group represented by the formula:



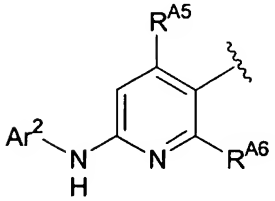
(wherein R^{A2} represents a halogen atom or a methoxy group; R^{A3} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group having a carboxyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group having a carboxyl group or a phenyl group having a carboxyl group),

(3) a compound in which A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



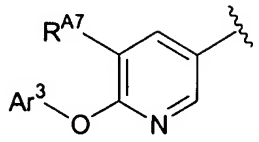
(wherein R^{A4} represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; Ar represents a phenyl group which may have a substituent) and X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH-,

(4) a compound in which A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{A5} represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group or a trifluoromethyl group; R^{A6} represents a hydrogen atom or a trifluoromethyl group; Ar^2 represents a phenyl group which may have a substituent) and X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH- and

(5) a compound in which A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{A7} represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group; Ar^3 represents a phenyl group which may have a substituent) and X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH-or a group represented by the formula -NH-C(=O)- are excluded].

4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, a quinolyl group, a naphthyldinyl group, a quinoxalinyl group, an imidazopyridyl group, a benzothiazolyl group, a pyrrolopyridyl group, a thienopyridyl group or a furopyridyl group (with the proviso that A^1 may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent groups a-1 and a-2 defined above).

5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group (with the proviso that A^1 may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent groups c-1 and c-2);

<Substituent group c-1>

Substituent group c-1 represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl

group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkenylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkynylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and a group represented by the formula -C(=N-OH)R^{a2} (wherein R^{a2} has the same meaning as defined above);

<Substituent group c-2>

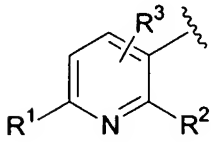
Substituent group c-2 represents the group consisting of: a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkenylamino group, a mono-C_{2-6} alkynylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group and a mono-5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkylamino group;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group c-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group d;

<Substituent group d>

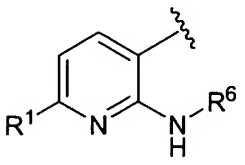
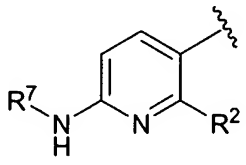
Substituent group d represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group that may have one amino group or aminosulfonyl group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group which may have one amino group, a cyano group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group and a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group.

6. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



[wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 may be the same as or different from each other and represent a substituent selected from the substituent groups c-1 and c-2 defined above].

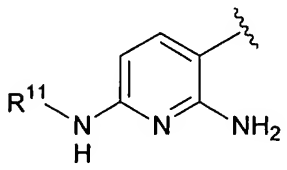
7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:

 or 

[wherein R^1 and R^2 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively; R^6 and R^7 may be the same or different from each other and represent a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group or a group represented by the formula -CHR^8-

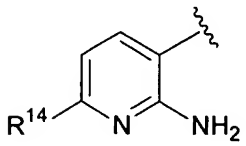
$(CH_2)_{n1}$-R^9 (wherein R^8 represents a hydrogen atom, a carboxyl group or a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group; R^9 represents a hydroxyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, a pyridyl group, a triazolyl group, a tetrahydrofuryl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group, a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a di-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a phenyl group which may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent group d defined above, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group which may have one amino group or an N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group which may have one amino group; n1 represents an integer from 0 to 3)].

8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{11} represents a hydrogen atom or a group represented by the formula -CHR^{12}-$(CH_2)_{n2}$-R^{13} (wherein R^{12} represents a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl group; R^{13} represents a carboxyl group or a phenyl group which may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent group d defined above; n2 represents an integer from 0 to 3)).

9. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{14} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group having one C_{1-6} alkoxy group).

10. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 6-quinolyl group, a [1,5]naphthylidin-2-yl group, a 6-quinoxalinyl group, an imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-yl group, a benzothiazol-6-yl group, a 1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group, a pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-1-yl group, a thieno[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group, a thieno[3,2-b]pyridin-6-yl group or a furo[3,2-b]pyridin-6-yl group (with the proviso that A^1 may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent groups c-1 and c-2 defined above).

11. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 6-quinolyl group, a [1,5]naphthylidin-2-yl group, a 6-quinoxalinyl group, an imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-yl group, a benzothiazol-6-yl group, a pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-1-yl group, a 1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group which may have one amino group, a thieno[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group which may have one amino group, a thieno[3,2-b]pyridin-6-yl group which may have one amino group or furo[3,2-b]pyridin-6-yl group which may have one amino group.

12. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 6-quinolyl group.

13. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a [1,5]naphthylidin-2-yl group.

14. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents an imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-yl group.

15. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a benzothiazol-6-yl group.

16. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, a pyrazinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group, a quinolyl group, an isoquinolyl group, a naphthyldinyl group, a quinoxalinyl group, a cinnolinyl group, a quinazolinyl group, an imidazopyridyl group, a benzothiazolyl group, a benzoxazolyl group, a benzimidazolyl group, an indolyl group, a pyrrolopyridyl group, a thienopyridyl group, a furopyridyl group, a 2,3-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group or a benzothiadiazolyl group (with the proviso that A^1 may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent groups a-1 and a-2 defined above).

17. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, a pyrazinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group, a quinolyl group, an isoquinolyl group, a naphthyldinyl group, a quinoxalinyl group, a cinnolinyl group, a quinazolinyl group, an imidazopyridyl group, a benzothiazolyl group, a benzoxazolyl group, a benzimidazolyl group, an indolyl group, a pyrrolopyridyl group, a thienopyridyl group, a furopyridyl group, a 2,3-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group or a benzothiadiazolyl group (with the proviso that A^1 may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent groups c-1 and c-2 defined above).

18. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, a pyrazinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group, a quinolyl group, an isoquinolyl group, a naphthyldinyl group, a quinoxalinyl group, a cinnolinyl group, a quinazolinyl group, an imidazopyridyl group, a benzothiazolyl group, a benzoxazolyl group, a benzimidazolyl group, an indolyl group, a pyrrolopyridyl group, a thienopyridyl group, a furopyridyl group, a 2,3-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group or a benzothiadiazolyl group (with the proviso that A^1 may have 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent groups c'-1 and c'-2);

<Substituent group c'-1>

Substituent group c'-1 represents the group consisting of: an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group and a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group; and

<Substituent group c'-2>

Substituent group c'-2 represents the group consisting of: a C_{1-6} alkyl group and a mono-C_{1-6} alkylamino group;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group c'-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group d';

<Substituent group d'>

Substituent group d' represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group and a C_{1-6} alkoxy group.

19. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 3 to 18~~ Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH- or a group represented by the formula -NH-C(=O)-.

20. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 3 to 18~~ Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH-.

21. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 3 to 20~~ Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein E represents a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, a phenyl group or pyridyl group (with the proviso that E has 1 or 2 substituents selected from the substituent groups a-1 and a-2 defined above).

22. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 3 to 20~~ Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein E represents a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, a phenyl group or pyridyl group (with the proviso that E has 1 or 2 substituents selected from the following substituent groups e-1 and e-2);

<Substituent group e-1>

Substituent group e-1 represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkylidene C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} arylthio group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group and a 5- to 10-membered heterocycle oxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

<Substituent group e-2>

Substituent group e-2 represents the group consisting of: a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, 5- to 10-membered heterocycle-C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} arylthio group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylthio group, a

mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a N-C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N-C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group and a 5- to 10-membered heterocycle oxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group e-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group f;

<Substituent group f>

Substituent group f represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, an amino group, a nitro group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group, a 5- to 10-membered heterocycle oxy group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl group, a mono-C_{6-10} arylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a trifluoromethoxy group and a C_{1-6} alkyl group.

23. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 3 to 20~~ Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein E represents a furyl group, a thienyl group, a pyrrolyl group, a phenyl group or a pyridyl group (with the proviso that E has one substituent selected from the following substituent groups g-1 and g-2);

<Substituent group g-1>

Substituent group g-1 represents the group consisting of: a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a furyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a thienyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a benzofuryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a benzothienyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenoxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a furyl

C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a thienyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a pyridyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenoxy C_{1-6} alkyl group and a pyridyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

<Substituent group g-2>

Substituent group g-2 represents the group consisting of: a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a furyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a thienyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a benzofuryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a benzothienyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenoxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a furyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a thienyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a pyridyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenoxy C_{1-6} alkyl group and a pyridyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

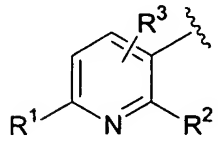
with the proviso that each group described in substituent group g-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group h;

<Substituent group h>

Substituent group h represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group and a C_{1-6} alkyl group.

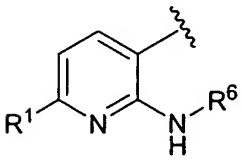
24. (Currently amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 3 to 20~~ Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein E represents a 2-furyl group, a 2-thienyl group, a 3-pyrrolyl group, a phenyl group, a 2-pyridyl group or 3-pyridyl group (with the proviso that E has one substituent selected from the substituent groups g-1 and g-2 defined above).

25. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH-, and A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:

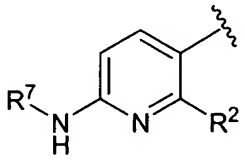


(wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), and E represents a 2-furyl group, a 2-thienyl group, a 3-pyrrolyl group, a phenyl group, a 2-pyridyl group or a 3-pyridyl group (with the proviso that E has one substituent selected from the substituent group g-1 or g-2 defined above).

26. (Original) The compound according to Claim 25, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:

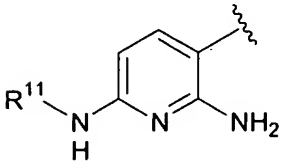


or



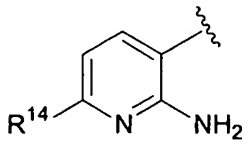
(wherein R^1, R^2, R^6 and R^7 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively).

27. (Original) The compound according to Claim 25, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{11} has the same meaning as defined above).

28. (Original) The compound according to Claim 25, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{14} has the same meaning as defined above).

29. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein X^1 represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH-, A^1 represents a 6-quinolyl group, a [1,5]naphthylidin-2-yl group, a 6-quinoxalinyl group, an imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-yl group, a benzothiazol-6-yl group, a pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridin-1-yl group, a 1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group which may have one amino group, a thieno[2,3-b]pyridin-5-yl group which may have one amino group, a thieno[3,2-b]pyridin-6-yl group which may have one amino group or a furo[3,2-b]pyridin-6-yl group which may have one amino group, and E represents a 2-furyl group, a 2-thienyl group, a 3-pyrrolyl group, a phenyl group or a 2-pyridyl group (with the proviso that E has a substituent selected from the substituent group g-1 or g-2 defined above).

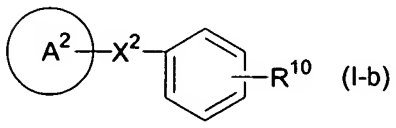
30. (Original) The compound according to Claim 29, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 6-quinolyl group.

31. (Original) The compound according to Claim 29, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a [1,5]naphthylidin-2-yl group.

32. (Original) The compound according to Claim 29, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents an imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-6-yl group.

33. (Original) The compound according to Claim 29, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein A^1 represents a benzothiazol-6-yl group.

34. (Original) A compound represented by the formula (I-b), or a salt or a hydrate thereof:



(I-b)

[wherein A^2 represents a 6-quinolyl group, a 4-quinazolinyl group or a pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4-yl group which may have an amino group;

X^2 represents a group represented by the formula -O-CH_2-, a group represented by the formula -S-CH_2-, a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-CH_2-, a group represented by the formula -NH-CH_2-or a group represented by the formula -CH_2-NH-;

R^{10} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryloxy group or a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group].

35. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, wherein X^2 represents a group represented by the formula -NH-CH_2- or a group represented by the formula -CH_2-NH-.

36. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to Claim 3 ~~or 34~~, or the salt or the hydrate thereof.

37. (Currently amended) An antifungal agent comprising, as an active ingredient, the compound according to Claim 3 ~~or 34~~, or the salt or the hydrate thereof.

38. (Currently amended) A method for prevention or treatment of fungal infection comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound according to Claim 3 ~~or 34~~, or the salt or the hydrate thereof.

39. (Currently amended) A use of the compound according to Claim 3 ~~or 34~~, or the salt or the hydrate thereof, for manufacture of an antifungal agent.

40. (Original) A method for prevention or treatment of fungal infection comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of the antifungal agent according to Claim 1.